



WEEKLY TEAM SUMMARY REPORT

TEAM: Workforce Training

Meeting: April 29, 2009

Attendees:

Carolyn Gatz, Co-Chair, Making Connections
Michael Gritton, Co-Chair, KentuckianaWorks
Stuart Benson, Louisville Metro Councilman
John Fleming, Louisville Community Initiative
Brooke Ha, Boat People S.O.S.
Jeff Hollis, Goodwill Industries of Kentucky
Nicole Ivory, Office of Youth Development
Anna Larson, JCTC
Lorena Lasky, Y.O.U. Center
Daro Mott, Louisville Metro
Artie Robertson, Louisville Urban League
Juanita Sands, Louisville Urban League

Dallas Thorton, Y.O.U. Center
Bob Tiell, JFCS
Diane Tobin, Spalding University
Susan Vessels, 4-C
Mary Gwen Wheeler, Louisville Metro
Becki Winchel, Coalition for the Homeless

Staff:

Kitty Armstrong, KentuckianaWorks
Eric Miller, KentuckianaWorks
Anna Mulvey, KentuckianaWorks

Meeting Discussion:

Co-chair Michael Gritton reviewed the Request for Proposals process for the KentuckianaWorks Summer Jobs Program for Young Adults. The KentuckianaWorks Board approved six contractors recommended by the RFP Review Team, including Jefferson County Public Schools, Bullitt County Public Schools, YouthBuild (Young Adult Development in Action, Inc.), Americana Community Center, Bates Community Development Corporation, and United Crescent Hill Ministries.

Mr. Gritton reviewed the recommendation presented to the KentuckianaWorks Board and the approval of issuing an RFP for services to low-income adults with ARRA 2009 funding for an amount not to exceed \$600,000. Proposals submitted should include as many of the following components as possible:

- Intensive community outreach and recruitment or marketing targeted at low-income communities
- Effective job-readiness training or coaching
- Training and skill-building linked to real jobs and employers
- Benefit coordination and the leveraging of other resources available in the community or through other funding streams
- Follow-up coaching for job retention and advancement
- In addition to low-income workers, potentially serve special populations:
 - Limited English speakers, immigrants and refugees
 - Ex-offenders

Mr. Gritton reviewed the funding of \$3 million from ARRA for assisting dislocated workers to obtain training and reported that KentuckianaWorks is considering whether another RFP for that funding will be needed. He asked the Louisville At Work team to consider whether there are new ideas or approaches that should be tested for serving this group.

One project already underway is the re-design of customer flow and information about training opportunities at the Office of Employment and Training offices. That project will include improving marketing and communication to ensure that workers who have been laid off from their jobs know that training is available and how to obtaining it. Ms. Gatz asked Kitty Armstrong, who is leading this project for KentuckianaWorks, if it could be presented to the committee during its next meeting.

The possibility of policy changes to better serve laid-off workers also was discussed. Other questions revolved around the potential for working directly with employers to provide customized training for workers to be rehired after layoff, counseling options, and whether the provision of soft skills such as resume writing and interviewing skills counted as training for Dislocated Workers.

Some discussion followed regarding how many people might be served utilizing the ARRA funding, and whether or not a portion of the funding should go towards an RFP for buying capacity at educational institutions.

Next Meeting:

May 6, 2009 – 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. – Spalding University, Academic Center Board Room, 2nd Floor

